

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 8-11, 17 and 22, and cancel claims 5-7, 15, 16 and 18-21 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 8-14, 17, and 22-25 are all the pending claims in the application.

Claims 1-4, 11-14, and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Conley (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0099904) and claims 5, 6, 8-10, 15, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Conley in view of Kim (U.S. Patent No. 6,381,176). Claims 7, 16, and 22-25 contain allowable subject matter.

Applicant does not acquiesce to the Examiner's reasons for rejecting the claims. However, to expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application and without commenting on the substantive merits of the Examiner's rejections, Applicant rewrites allowable claim 7 into its independent form including the intervening claims 5 and 6, which is now amended claim 1 and rewrites the allowable claim 16 into its independent form including the intervening claim 15, which is now amended claim 11. Applicant also rewrites allowable claim 22 into its independent form. Accordingly, as acknowledged by the Examiner, independent claims 1, 7, and 22 should now be allowed. Claims 2-4, 8-10, 12-14, 17, 23-25 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Applicant is not conceding in this application that original claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the allowable subject matter noted by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Applicant has discussed the proposed amendments with the Examiner on September 11, 2009. The Examiner indicated that these amendments will be entered and should place the application in condition for allowance.

In view of the above, reconsideration and immediate allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: September 11, 2009